

Applicant : Gregory Rose et al.
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Attorney Docket: 10559-450001 / P10767

REMARKS

Below, the applicant's comments are preceded by related remarks of the examiner set forth in small bold type.

2. **The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The current title is imprecise.**

The applicant notes that the title is indicative of the claimed invention. If the Examiner continues to regard the title as being non-descriptive, the applicant would request that the Examiner suggest a title that is descriptive of the claimed invention.

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 9-10, 14, 17-18, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bland et al. (Bland), U. S. patent no. 5,517,650. Bland is a prior art reference cited by applicant.

As per claim 1, Bland discloses a circuit [fig. 4] comprising:

a PAD signal line connectable to an external host line [fig. 5, col. 6, line 62-col. 7, line 2] ; a keeper stage configured to hold the PAD signal line in a weakly held state responsive to changes in the state of the external host signal [col. 7, lines 3-15].

Bland does not disclose or suggest "a keeper stage to hold the PAD signal line in a weakly held state responsive to changes in the state of [an] external signal line that occurs after a powering down," as recited in amended claim 1.

Although Bland discloses a keeper circuit 94, the keeper circuit does not hold a signal line in a weakly held state "responsive to changes in the state of the external signal line that occurs after a powering down," as required by claim 1. Rather, "when the NAND gate 94 shuts off due to assertion of the PMGMT SUSPEND signal, the keeper circuit will retain the previous value." (emphasis added)

Claims 9 and 17 are patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 1. The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as the claims on which they depend.

Any circumstance in which the applicant has addressed certain comments of the examiner does not mean that the applicant concedes other comments of the examiner. Any circumstance in which the applicant has made arguments for the patentability of some claims does not mean that

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there are not other good reasons for patentability of those claims and other claims. Any circumstance in which the applicant has amended a claim does not mean that the applicant concedes any of the examiner's positions with respect to that claim or other claims.

Please apply \$400.00 for excess claim fees, \$450.00 for the Petition for Extension of Time fee and any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing attorney docket 10559-450001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/12/2005

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** See attached document certifying that Rex Huang has limited recognition to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 37 CFR § 10.9(b).*

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